IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please insert the following as the first paragraph:

This application is a U.S. National Phase Application under 35 USC 371 of International Application PCT/JP2003/010300 filed August 14, 2003.

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 2-5, with the following amended paragraph:

Field of The Invention

The present invention relates to a radiographic image reading ~~apparatus~~ system for reading radiographic image information accumulated in a photostimulable phosphor sheet.

Please delete in its entirety the "Disclosure of the Invention" section of the specification, beginning on page 4, line 5 from the bottom through page 14, line 25 (last line) and replace with the following:

Summary of The Invention

For solving the problems and for achieving objects, the present invention is configured as follows.

In accordance with a first aspect of the present invention, the radiographic image reading system includes a cassette to

record a radiographic image information of an object to be radiographed and an apparatus to read out the radiographic image information. The cassette comprises a sheet-shaped recording medium having a front member through which the recording medium receives the radiographic image information of the object, and a back member positioned opposite to the front member, wherein the front and back members are relatively attached to each other so as to form an accommodation space in which the sheet-shaped recording medium is accommodated or detached from each other to open the recording medium. The apparatus to read out the radiographic image information comprises an insertion section to insert the cassette into the apparatus, a conveying section to convey the cassette within the apparatus, a separation section to separate the back member from the front member, a holding section to hold the back member and the recording medium for reading out the radiographic image information, a scanning section to read out the radiographic image information from the recording medium by relative movement between the recording medium and the scanning section, a peeling off section to peel off the back member and the recording medium against the holding section, and a combination section to combine the separated front member with the back member and the recording medium again, wherein the peeling off section peels off the back member and the recording medium against the holding section, after the front member is combined with the back member again by the combination section. The apparatus further comprises a detection section to detect a

misholding of at least one of the back member and the recording medium by the holding section, and a control section to control the apparatus according to the detection section so as to prevent damage of the apparatus and the cassette.

Preferably, the detection section detects the misholding of at least one of the back member and the recording medium toward the scanning section.

Preferably, the detection section detects the misholding of the back member by detecting an inclination of a tracing rod tracing the back member during the relative movement.

Preferably, the relative movement between the recording medium and the scanning section is prohibited in a case of a detection of the misholding.

Preferably, the detection section detects the misholding of at least one of the back member and the recording medium toward a direction of gravitational force.

Preferably, a combination of the back member and the recording medium with the front member and peeling off the back member and the recording medium against the holding section are prohibited in a case of a detection of the misholding.